

Message Text

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42

ACTION NEA-10

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DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 IO-10 ACDA-10 ERDA-07

NRC-07 OES-05 AID-05 SAJ-01 SCCT-01 /128 W

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R 051420Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE EASHDC 7704

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT POUCH

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

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E.O. 11652: NA

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SUBJECT: SADAT PRESS CONFERENCE WITH EGYPTIAN JOURNALISTS (NOVEMBER 4)

SUMMARY. CAIRO FRONT PAGES NOVEMBER 5 DOMINATED BY SADAT'S PRESS CONFERENCE WITH EGYPTIAN JOURNALISTS. BANNER HEADLINES: "VISIT 100 PERCENT SUCCESSFUL." PRESIDENT MADE CLEAR TO ARAB AUDIENCE EGYPT WILL PROCEED ALONG FOREIGN POLICY LINES IT JUDGES MOST APPROPRIATE FOR ALL ARABS. BARBARA WALTERS' INTERVIEW ALSO CARRIED, BUT PRESIDENT FORD'S JACKSONVILLE PRESS CONFERENCE IS IGNORED. END SUMMARY.

1. ALL CAIRO DAILIES NOVEMBER 5 CARRY FULL TEXT OF PRESIDENT SADAT'S Q AND A SESSION WITH EGYPTIAN JOURNALISTS IN JACKSONVILLE. IDENTICAL TEXT IN ALL PAPERS ACCORDS WITH TEXT PROVIDED FBIS AMMAN JN040852Y. HIGHLIGHTS FOLLOW:

A. US VISIT 100 PERCENT SUCCESSFUL. SADAT'S COMMENT THAT
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HIS VISIT WAS TOTALLY SUCCESSFUL WITHIN CONTEXT OF

OBJECTIVES HE HAD SET MAKES BANNER HEADLINES IN ALL PAPERS. HE DEFINED THESE AIMS AS ESTABLISHING CONTACTS WITH AMERICAN PEOPLE, THEIR PRESIDENT AND CONGRESS. TALKS WERE SUCCESSFUL AND "WE WILL OBTAIN CERTAIN SPECIFIC THINGS, "ESPECIALLY IN FIELD OF ATOMIC ENERGY FOR DESALINIZATION OF SEA WATER.

B. EGYPTIAN RESOLUTION AT UN. ARAB OPPOSITION TO EGYPTIAN DRAFT WAS EXPECTED: "WE IN EGYPT WILL DO WHAT WE CAN IN INTEREST OF THE CAUSE WHETHER THEY LIKE IT OR NOT."

C. US ARMS. "NOTHING SPECIFIC WAS AGREED, THOUGH IT IS INEVITABLE WE WILL RETURN TO THIS ISSUE."

D. FINAL SOLUTION. "WE HAVE AGREED WITH US THAT THERE WILL BE NO OTHER STEPS EXCEPT THE FINAL SOLUTION IN WHICH, AS US AGREES, ALL SIDES MUST PARTICIPATE."

E. SYRIAN INVOLVEMENT IN LEBANON. AS USUAL, SADAT STRESSED PROBLEM IS ONE FOR PEOPLE OF LEBANON TO SOLVE IN FIRST INSTANCE, AFTER WHICH LEBANESE MUST DECIDE WITH PALESTINIANS ON LATTER'S FUTURE THERE. WITHOUT NAMING SYRIA, HE IMPLIED SARG ACTIVITY IN LEBANON IS UNDERMINING ARAB SOLIDARITY: "IT MUST BE CLEAR I WILL NOT ALLOW ANY POLITICAL BLACKMAIL..." ELSE WHERE IN PRESS CONFERENCE, SADAT SAID BA'ATH PARTY HAS IMPOSED ITS COMPLETE STEWARDSHIP OVER "THE PALESTINIANS" THROUGH SA'IQA.

F. INFORMAL MEETING BEFORE GENEVA. "WE DID NOT RPT NOT DISCUSS THIS PROPOSAL, WHICH WAS MADE BEFORE I CAME TO US. ON OUR PART, WE ARE OPEN TO ANYTHING THAT MIGHT ADVANCE THE ISSUE." IN AMBIGUOUS PASSAGE, PRESIDENT SAID "I BELIEVE THAT WHEN THEY (PRESUMABLY US) CALL FOR SUCH A MEETING, IT WILL BE AN UNOFFICIAL ONE, SO THAT PALESTINIANS CAN BE INVITED."

G. GOLAN DISENGAGEMENT. PRESIDENT CLAIMS, BY IMPLICATION SYRIAN VIEW IS HARD TO UNDERSTAND, WHEREAS GOE POLICY IS CLEAR; IN EGYPT, SYRIAN MANEUVERS HAVE CREATED "DISGUST", AS OCCURRED AFTER FIRST SINAI DISENGAGEMENT. "GOD ALONE KNOWS IF BA'ATH PARTY WANTS DISENGAGEMENT OR NOT." ASAD HAS PREVENTED ME FROM TALKING ABOUT MANY THINGS.

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H. ARAB OPPOSITION TO EGYPT. THROUGHOUT PRESS CONFERENCE, SADAT EMPHASIZED EGYPT WILL PROCEED AS IT DEEMS BEST FOR GOOD OF ALL ARABS. PARAPHRASING NASSER'S SUGGESTION TO PRESIDENT JOHNSON, HE SUMMED UP HIS VIEWS WHEN HE SAID IF ANYONE (I.E. ANY ARAB) DOES NOT AGREE, HE CAN JUMP IN THE LAKE.

2. PRESIDENT'S INTERVIEW WITH BARBARA WALTERS, IDENTIFIED AS "ABC CORRESPONDENT," IS ALSO CARRIED IN NOVEMBER 5 PAPERS. ONE

NOTABLE OMISSION SHOULD BE MENTIONED. REPLYING TO QUESTION
WHETHER HE BELIEVES IN EXISTENCE OF STATE OF ISRAEL, ARABIC PRESS
REPORTS HE SAID ISRAEL IS A FACT AS SHOWN BY EGYPTIAN
ACCEPTANCE OF RES. 242, BUT ALL CAIRO PAPERS OMIT SENTENCE:
"I AM OPPOSED TO EXPULSION OF ISRAEL FROM UN."

3. WE HAVE BEEN UNABLE FIND ANY MENTION IN PRESS THIS MORNING
OF PRESIDENT FORD'S NOVEMBER 2 INTERVIEW IN JACKSONVILLE IN
WHICH HE COMMENTED, INTER ALIA, ON NECESSITY OF PLO'S RECOGNIZING
ISRAEL BEFORE PARTICIPATING IN NEGOTIATIONS, AND REMARKED THAT
USG-GOE NEGOTIATIONS ON NUCLEAR-POWER FACILITIES HAVE NOT COME
TO FINAL STAGE.
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